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ACTION RP-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 IO-14 ADS-00 SR-04 HA-05 AID-07
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5917
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: SREF, PK, AF, ICRC
SUBJECT: ICRC ASSISTANCE TO AFGHAN REFUGEES

REFERENCE: ISLAMABAD 4291

1. ICRC REPRESENTATIVE CALLED AT MISSION MAY 19 TO DISCUSS
ICRC FUNDING NEEDS FOR ASSISTANCE TO AFGHAN REFUGEES IN
PAKISTAN.

2. ICRC REP SAID ICRC SHARE OF JOINT LICROSS/ICRC
BUDGET IS 2.1 MILLION SWISS FRANCS, WHICH REPRESENTS
15 PERCENT OF TOTAL JOINT BUDGET TO END OF YEAR. HE
SAID ICRC HAD INTENDED TO INSTALL 12 DISPENSARIES NEAR
BORDER. DISPENSARIES WOULD HAVE UTILIZED PERSONNEL
RECRUITED LOCALLY BUT WOULD HAVE BEEN SUPERVISED BY
ICRC OFFICIALS AND WOULD HAVE BEEN VISITED BY ICRC MOBILE
TEAMS.

3. DUE TO SECURITY PROBLEM PRESENTED BY LACK OF GOP
CONTROL IN TRIBAL AREAS ALONG BORDER, AFORESAID PLAN
COULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED AND EMPHASIS HAS BEEN PLACED
ON MOBILE UNITS. TWO SUCH UNITS ARE PRESENTLY IN
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OPERATION, ONE IN NORTH WAZIRISTAN AND ONE IN KUNRAW

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AGENCY. BOTH ARE UNDER SUPERVISION OF ICRC MEDICAL CO-ORDINATOR IN PESHAWAR AND DELEGATE ZUFFEREY IN ISLAMABAD. 3,500 AFGHAN REFUGEES ARE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN TREATED BY THE TWO UNITS FROM THEIR INITIATION ON APRIL 8 THROUGH APRIL 30.

4. ICRC WOULD LIKE TO FIELD ADDITIONAL MOBILE UNITS AND POSSIBLY TO INSTALL THREE OR FOUR DISPENSARIES IN MORE SECURE AREAS AWAY FROM BORDERS. THIS IS PRESENTLY IMPOSSIBLE, HOWEVER, SINCE LICROSS/ICRC JOINT FUND HAS BALANCE OF ONLY 612,000 SWISS FRANCS AND THIS IS TO BE COMMITTED SOON. ICRC WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE U.S. CONTRIBUTION ON URGENT BASIS. HELMAN

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